

1997-98 SESSION  
COMMITTEE HEARING  
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Joint Committee on  
Finance (JC-Fi)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hrAC-EdR\_RCP\_pt01a
- 05hrAC-EdR\_RCP\_pt01b
- 05hrAC-EdR\_RCP\_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ \*\*

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ \*\*

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ \*\*

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ \*\*

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ \*\*

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

➤ \*\*

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ 97hrJC-Fi\_Misc\_pt146\_LFB

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ \*\*



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE  
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54702-4004

*Department of Nursing Systems  
School of Nursing  
College of Professional Studies  
Nursing Building, Room 276  
(715) 836-5837, Fax: (715) 836-5971*

February 10, 1997

Cheryl Maurana, Ph.D.  
Principal Investigator  
Wisconsin AHEC System  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
8701 Watertown Plank Rd.  
P. O. Box 26509, MEB Bldg., RM S207  
Milwaukee, WI 53226-0509

Dear Dr. Maurana:

I am writing this letter to extend my support for renewal of funding for the Wisconsin Area Health Education Center (AHEC). As a project coordinator of a Community Education Center (CEC), with financial support from the Northern Wisconsin Area Health Education Center INC., I have experienced the positive outcomes relative to health profession student education and communities made possible through AHEC.

The Northern Wisconsin Area Health Education Center INC. is a valuable resource. The Center provides, through its financial support, for students in a variety of health provider educational programs, an opportunity to enrich their education through participative learning experiences in rural communities in Northern Wisconsin. The students have the benefit of working with community preceptors from a variety of health care and service disciplines. They have the opportunity to learn about and experience the interdisciplinary nature of health care practices in rural communities. In addition they learn about the culture of rural communities, the diversity of cultures of the rural dwellers and the strengths of rural communities as well as their limitations. These unique learning experiences would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to provide without the resources made available through the Center.

The Northern Wisconsin Area Health Education Center has played an important role in initiating joint health related projects and programming among a variety of agencies in the region. The Center has also been sensitive to the educational needs of the health care providers who serve as preceptors for the students and has played a role in addressing those needs.

My personal experience has been in a Community Education Center (CEC) located in a tri-county area in west-central Wisconsin. Several communities in these counties have been designated as medically underserved areas and consequentially have limited numbers of health providers from any of the health care disciplines. With the support of AHEC funding, I have had the opportunity to develop a partnership with a health care agency in one of these underserved communities with the goal of developing a Community Education Center.

Through the partnership, we have established a "homesite classroom" at the health care agency. We are able to offer opportunities for clinical educational experiences with provider preceptors in the tri-county area. Students with health profession majors from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Eau Claire have participated. Students who have participated in the program have been overwhelmingly enthusiastic about the learning opportunities provided. They found that the experiences were enriching and provided a level of understanding of rural health care and rural communities that could not have been achieved without this experience.

In looking ahead to the future, I am optimistic that with some continued support from AHEC the Community Education Center will grow in value to students, the University and the communities. Very recently the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire has developed increased interest in and commitment to interdisciplinary education. Interdisciplinary faculty teams are beginning to emerge and are interested in developing programming and providing opportunities for student learning in established community sites. When there is collaboration between faculty teams and community partners. I am confident that there will be positive outcomes in education and the community.

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide this letter of support.

Sincerely,



Karen Witt, RN, MSN  
Associate Professor

# Augusta Farmers Union Co-op

P.O. Box 472  
Augusta, Wisconsin 54722

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Augusta Office: 715/286-2263 • Fax: 715/286-5388 • Augusta Mill: 715/286-2313 • Augusta Cenex: 715/286-2359  
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## Statement of Mark Knoepke, Manager, Augusta Farmers Union Co-op

To Joint Finance Committee at Eau Claire, April 22, 1997

On restoring Agrichemical Management/Agricultural Chemical Cleanup Program  
Changes to Biennial Budget Bill

Good day. My name is Mark Knoepke, and I am general manager at Augusta Farmers Union Cooperative, of Augusta. Our business is a farm supply cooperative serving farmers and others in the Augusta area. I understand that the co-chairs of the committee have decided that provisions in the DATCP area of the Governor's proposed budget will have to receive majority support of this committee to go back in the budget bill. I realize that in legislative jargon, you will consider adding the administration's items back to the "adjusted base DATCP budget." I'm here away from my business at the busiest time of the year for us, to ask you to restore virtually all of the changes to the Agrichemical Management Fund and Agricultural Chemical Cleanup Program. This action would save farmers significant money, and also keep the ACCP account healthy enough to pay reimbursements to me and other fund claimants for the next two years and beyond.

I'm no "fair weather friend" of the Agrichem Cleanup Program. In fact, I've been dealing with these issues much longer than the statutory language creating an ACCP was even written. I was an early "activist" working on this issue with others who felt that a state program similar to Minnesota's contaminated site cleanup program was needed. I was one of the first persons appointed to the ACCP Advisory Council, and I just was reappointed by DATCP as a representative of retail fertilizer and pesticide dealers. I am working through a major groundwater contamination at our Augusta site. Fortunately for us, our insurance carrier came through for our cooperative and covered major expenses of supplying alternate sources of municipal water for Augusta. However, we've just submitted a reimbursement claim of almost \$94,000.00 to the ACCP. And, our site work has a long way to go.

Serving on the ACCP Council, I see the submissions of claims against the ACCP account. About \$5 million to date has been submitted by commercial and farm site owners. I also have a sense of what the future holds for cleanups of mixing and loading sites. This program should become more popular, and more greatly used. DATCP staff is improving their consistency across sites they supervise, and some other early problems are being overcome. Nevertheless, the accumulating millions of unspent revenue raised from fees on product sales and dealer license "surcharges" mean that the legislature needs to act to keep the currently unneeded fee surcharges in the pockets of farmers across Wisconsin for the next two years.

The items I want to highlight to you today include the provisions that would:

- **Set aside the ACCP fee surcharges for two years. This money will be left in the pocket of the producer patron.** We will not collect the ACCP amount if the state sets it aside. I've also heard that the manufacturers and labelers of pesticide products have no intent to try to collect or "keep" that amount if the ACCP surcharge is set aside.
- After the two year "non-collection", the surcharge would be set by DATCP rule, with low and high balances that will trigger the fee amount necessary to meet the level of activity.
- **A site lifetime cap of \$400,000.00 will replace the current \$300,000.00 funding cap for a groundwater-contaminated site.** A few sites have exceeded the current lower figure.
- Time a responsible person spends on implementing a cleanup would be eligible for reimbursement. This would not include management oversight.

**I don't think that the budget language was perfect. In fact, I do request that interest that is earned through state investment of idle ACCP money derived from industry fees be left in the ACCP account, rather than be taken for general fund use. The ACCP is still a young**

# Augusta Farmers Union Co-op

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program and we are seeing improvements as DATCP and industry participants accumulate experience. We had learned a lot from PECFA. ACCP was drafted with tough cost controls to avoid the PECFA program problems and oversights.

Please help us make additional modifications to a program that will continue to be strong and at the same time, restore resources to our patrons over the next two years. Please vote to reinstate the bulk of the ACM and ACCP provisions that were in the proposed 1997-99 biennial budget bill. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Mark Knoepke, General Manager  
Augusta Farmers Union Co-op

January 24, 1997

Cheryl Maurana, Ph.D.  
Principal Investigator  
Wisconsin AHEC System  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
8701 Watertown Plank Rd.  
P.O. Box 26509, MEB Bldg., RM S207  
Milwaukee, WI 53226-0509

Dear Dr. Maurana,

The faculty at the Human Development Center would like to express our support for the Northern Wisconsin AHEC. We have been associated with NAHEC for the past four years and with NAHEC's assistance, have developed programs and experiences that have benefited large numbers of pre-health related professionals and children and families from American Indian communities in our area. In fact, our collaboration with physicians and medical students was facilitated by NAHEC's Sarah Beversdorf and Susanne Matthew who have been extremely helpful with all aspects of our project.

As a result of our collaboration with NAHEC, many graduate students in Family Nursing, Communication Disorders, School Psychology, Medicine, Special Education, and Education along with undergraduate students in Nursing, Communication Disorders, Psychology, Education, and Social Work have participated in NAHEC sponsored activities in reservation communities. During these experiences all students have learned to function as members of an interdisciplinary team whose purpose is to provide integrated services to children and families in a family centered, culturally sensitive fashion.

This process is exemplified by our American Indian Combined Assessment and Treatment Planning Team (ICATT) clinics. This process was conceptualized by Dr. Damian Vraniak and conducted within several of the American Indian communities in the NAHEC region. These assessment/intervention clinics represent the state of the art in providing family centered services in an integrated manner. Many students from the disciplines mentioned above and many community mental health professionals have shared in the learning experiences that have consistently been part of the ICATT process. The development of this family/community centered service delivery process has provided a stimulating interdisciplinary training

opportunity for a large number of future health-related professionals receiving their training at UW-Eau Claire.

We are currently working with the Lac du Flambeau, Ho Chunk and La Court Oreilles communities. This spring and summer, we plan to complete ICATT clinics within each of these communities and, in addition, we plan to continue our collaboration with the Lac du Flambeau Headstart program, elementary school, and Family Resource Center.

In addition to the ICATT clinics, we are currently providing students with the opportunity to travel to the Lac du Flambeau reservation and assist teachers at the Headstart program as well as work with teachers at the elementary school, and mental health professionals at the Family Resource Center. We will also assist the Headstart program with their "Child Development Days" screening program that will be completed at the end of the spring 1997 semester. In summary, each week, an interdisciplinary team of as many as four UW-Eau Claire students travel to Lac du Flambeau and participate in one or more of the projects delineated above.

When we consider all these projects together, the HDC in collaboration with NAHEC, is providing unique interdisciplinary educational opportunities for as many as 100 of our students each year. This represents a significant proportion of our students who will be working in education and health-related careers.

It is anticipated that UWEC students will learn about differences in providing care in a minority vs. majority culture, and about collaborating with other professionals in an interdisciplinary model of service provision to at-risk children. Past groups of students have agreed that spending time working on the reservation was a key to the success of the project. On the way home from one of the past ICATT clinics, we asked students what they thought of the experience. One student summed up the feeling of the entire group when she stated, "This is the best educational experience I have ever had."

Other students involved in past experiences have described the impact their work with individual students and families have had on them personally and how the experiences have influenced their commitment to their intended professions. One undergraduate student commented that she was never sure of the type of career she wanted to enter until her experience working with children on one of our projects.

Along with the benefit to our students, the staff at the Headstart program, the elementary school, and Family Resource Center at Lac du

Flambeau have benefited from the energy and enthusiasm our students bring with them. At the end of a past project, one of the Lac du Flambeau Family Resource Center supervisors stated that "working with the Eau Claire students was an energizing experience" because the students were so caring and eager to participate. In addition, the knowledge of the participating UW-Eau Claire faculty aided the implementation of a developmentally sound preschool curriculum for the Headstart program. Finally, the children in the Headstart program are bound to benefit academically and emotionally from their interactions with our highly motivated and competent students. The children have already become very attached to students who have worked with them in the Headstart program.

The success that we have experienced over the past five years would not have been possible with the support of NAHEC. As a result of our collaboration, many students have had the types of unique experiences that are not typically part of professional training programs. However, these experiences may be the most necessary for developing effective health-care providers and educators who can work successfully as team members with culturally diverse populations.

Sincerely,

William Frankenberger  
Director of the Human Development Center  
Professor of Psychology



Sue Gilbertson  
W1959 770th Avenue  
Spring Valley, WI 54767  
Tel. 715-772-4674  
Fax 715-772-4674

April 20, 1997

Joint Finance Committee Members:

I have an 11 year old daughter who loves music, shopping, school, and going for long walks. She has a beautiful smile and an infectious laugh. She also has multiple significant disabilities and is medically fragile. Kirsten is cortically blind, is unable to speak, has high blood pressure, and uncontrolled seizures.

Kirsten's need for care is constant: she cannot feed herself, a task which takes at least three hours each day, and is self-abusive, hitting herself and throwing her head around when unhappy or frustrated. She must be monitored continually for seizures and given appropriate narcotic medications. She sleeps very erratically, sometimes getting days and nights completely confused.

We are able to keep Kirsten at home with us because of the help we receive through a home health agency, paid for by Kirsten's eligibility for Medical Assistance. Yet, in this budget, private duty nursing for children living at home with their families is being limited.

And that's what's scary.

The people deciding what is and is not available and feasible for my child are sitting in an office in Madison and don't know Kirsten or my family from Adam.

In the meantime, my husband works 12-hour rotating shifts, and I work part-time from home. I have basically given up any thoughts of a career so that I may care for my child. The direct person-to-person care Kirsten requires eats up hours every day, and that doesn't even count the many hours spent coordinating the necessary doctor and therapy appointments, and all the paperwork her life entails.

Wisconsin has some wonderful long-term care programs, like COP and the CIP waivers, but they need more funding. Medicaid has the ability to pay for many services to help children and adults with disabilities live in their own homes and communities, yet the scope of those services is continually being cut back in our state.

Families should be able to stay intact and healthy when that is what they want. That doesn't mean they don't need help. How many children have ended up in nursing homes and foster care during the past year and a half since the Bureau of Health Care Financing began restricting private duty nursing for children at home?

I am the cheapest person to care for my daughter, yet how much longer will that be possible? How many families with a child like mine are going to be forced to give up that child entirely because they can't get a break from the constant care and responsibility? And at what financial and moral cost to our state?

Nursing homes are getting more funding with every passing budget. What about kids with disabilities? I don't think kids belong in nursing homes, not even the ones euphemistically called health care centers.

My daughter was in bed less than eight hours last night, and I was up with her seven times during that eight hours. I have been doing this for eleven years. And yet, according to the staff at the Bureau of Health Care Financing, I'm not doing enough. Kirsten's needs really aren't that significant. The twelve hours of private duty nursing care she averages each week are "excessive".

Every year there are more children with disabilities and medical complications being born and surviving. That's a fact we all have to deal with. You can't "de-fund" kids like Kirsten out of existence, but you do have the power to "de-fund" them right out of their homes and away from their families.

Thank You,  
Sue Gilbertson

Date: April 22, 1997

To: Members--Joint Committee on Finance

From: Allen Curtis, English Department, UW-Eau Claire

Re: Current Salary Levels

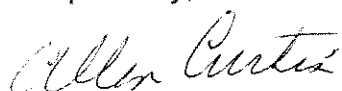
We live in a state whose economy is commonly described as robust. Jobs are reported to be plentiful; unemployment is at a record low--last night's LEADER-TELEGRAM, for example, reported that a new enterprise in Chetek promises to employ 300. All this in a nation whose wealth passes beyond easy description--David Gergen refers in this week's U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT to the fact that the generation of the wealthiest "baby-boomers" will pass on to their descendents some \$10 trillion dollars, more than double the national debt.

Yet salaries of UW-System faculty and academic staff continue to languish while other professional groups throughout the state receive increases matching or exceeding cost-of-living/inflation levels. To support the rising expectations of Regents, legislators, the administration, and the public, the UW is asked to raise student tuition. The fact is, however, that parents with incomes less than \$50,000 a year now find it difficult to finance their children's post-high-school education. For parents whose income is less than \$30,000 per year (or less than \$20,000, or less than \$10,000!), a university degree has become an impossible dream. It doesn't take much historical insight to understand the degree to which the children of such upwardly mobile, working-class families have been an important stimulant to the evolution of America's special kind of democracy.

Wisconsin's faculty and academic staff salaries are becoming a national embarrassment. In other states (Pennsylvania, for example), bargaining units are finding their salary proposals rejected--the argument based on a comparison with the low salaries in Wisconsin. At many colleges and universities (though not yet at UW-Eau Claire), the ratio of full-time, tenured faculty to part-time, no-intent-to-renew, academic staff and adjunct instructors is approaching 50/50, ensuring short-term cost savings while threatening the long-term loss of a stable faculty as well as of a coherent curriculum.

On every side today, it seems, we see a growing indifference to the value of higher education and, in particular, the liberal arts. Yet no society that I know of has forgotten their value and preserved its spiritual and intellectual freedom. Wisconsin's legislature must somehow find the means to renew the state's commitment to higher education.

Respectfully,



April 22, 1997

As a junior faculty member who came to UWEC from a university with a regulated step system for raises, I have been dismayed at the inadequate and seemingly arbitrary level of salary raises and the consequent long-term salary compression experienced in the UW System.

The low level of economic support showed to Wisconsin System faculty is the major concern I have when considering whether to continue building my career in Wisconsin. As it is, I can look forward to such regressive pay raises that I will make little more than new faculty. What incentive is this for retaining quality faculty?

Dr. Jennifer Shaddock  
English Department  
UWEC

from Sue Johnson  
410 Stockman St  
Kendallville WI  
54028  
698-2382

Changes in the positions from DPI  
to Workforce Development and  
social services adds another layer of  
bureaucracy. As a parent in my school  
district on several committees one of  
which is Education for Employment and  
a member of St Croix Counties Special  
Education Transition Council, I see only  
more confusion as a result of the proposed  
changes and added cost of change over.

Don't create another level for me to  
sort through in finding out and more  
people to ~~add~~ bring up to speed. This  
new W-2 system needs enough time and  
energy from its staff to implement. They  
don't need to take on another new  
project until they have W2 in place.  
We have good systems now don't slow  
our progress in the schools on School to work  
and drug and alcohol programs.

Don't shift positions from Work Training Programs DPI ~~on~~ or Alcohol and Drug Prevention. Funding could be better used to support programs like Independent Living Centers, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Family Support Programs, Private Industry Council Programs.

These agencies are working hard to combine their efforts to improve services to children with disabilities. The goal of prepare our children for the future is one that is supported by many agencies because their people care about its success. The road blocks to cooperation from agencies comes when money limits the agencies involvement. Shifting accountability for programs doesn't improve the system it just slows it down. Students don't have time to wait for agencies to catch up with what is now in place.

Sue Schmeier  
410 Stockman St  
Woodville WI 54028

## SCHOOL TO WORK HIGHLIGHTS

Wisconsin is known as a national leader in developing school to work transition programs for its youth. It was one of the first eight states to receive a federal grant from the School to Work Opportunities Act (STWOA) in 1994 to be used for school to work implementation, and it was the first of those eight states to develop and fund local partnerships. Today, 97% of Wisconsin high schools are involved in school to work partnerships, which equals over 267,000 students.

### WHAT IS SCHOOL TO WORK?

School to work (STW) is an expanded system of opportunities for ALL students to explore and pursue future occupational options. It contains three components:

Career Exploration: to help students make informed decisions

School-Based Learning: to help students make connections between the real world and what they learn in school

Work-Based Learning: to allow students opportunities to learn in business settings and receive skill certificates that document competencies mastered

### 1997-99 SCHOOL TO WORK BUDGET PROPOSALS (see attached for more detail)

The Governor's proposed budget seeks to strengthen Wisconsin's STW initiative by:

A. Creating a single point of accountability at the Department of Workforce Development for staffing and policy development. While this consolidation will improve efficiency and help to eliminate duplication of resources, both educational agencies will still maintain numerous positions to support the STW initiative.

B. Establishing long-term funding sources. The STWOA is a five-year grant that ends in two years. The Governor's proposed budget directs the use of discretionary funding from the federal Carl Perkins Act to be used for STW activities. Both educational agencies will continue to administer and operate Carl Perkins funding, including discretionary programs.

C. Clarifying the definition of school to work.

D. Modifying the definition and operation of Tech Prep for consistency with STW.

In addition to the Governor's most recent STW budget proposals, his 1997-99 budget bill also seeks to restore funding for the State's eight innovative career counseling centers (a total of \$600,000 each year), which will help the centers become better established and ultimately financially independent. This provision is scheduled to sunset in 6/30/99. Funding for employer training grants is also continued in the 1997-99 budget bill, with modifications that include allowing employers to be paid not more than \$500 per year and simplifying the grant formula. Employer training grants are used to offset wages paid by employers to youth apprentices. Youth apprentices are paid at least minimum wage and work approximately 15 hours per week for two years in a business setting.

## MAJOR STW THEMES IN THE 1997-99 BUDGET BILL

### A. CREATE A SINGLE POINT OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND SIMPLIFY POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Establish DWD as the lead agency for STW programs

Establish the Governor's Council on Workforce Excellence as the governing body for STW policy, funds, and programs

Consolidate STW staff in the DWD Division of Connecting Education and Work (Transfer 13 DPI and 1 Tech College Board positions to DWD)

### B. ESTABLISH FUNDING SOURCES THAT WILL CONTINUE BEYOND THE FEDERAL STWOA FUNDS

Consolidate federal Carl Perkins funds (22.0 million) in separate appropriations and direct the use of discretionary funding for support of STW programs. The Department of Public Instruction and the WI Technical College System Board continues to administer and operate Carl Perkins programs. The only Perkins funds that transfer to DWD are those funds directly associated with the positions being transferred.

### CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF STW

Define STW as:

1. a series of programs and initiatives that provide high school students with work-based learning opportunities,
2. the coordination and alignment of high school courses with WTCS and UW courses for the purpose of providing students advanced standing credits in the postsecondary system, and
3. a system of career guidance activities for all high school students.

Change the title of the Education for Employment Standard to School to Work

### MODIFY THE STATUTORY DEFINITION AND OPERATION OF TECH PREP

Focus on the alignment of courses between K-12 and the WTCS and the provision of advanced standing credit

Delete the requirement for regional Tech Prep councils in order to allow regions to better integrate operations with STW partnerships





This responds to your request for information about the proposed transfer of the School-to-Work staff from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to the Department of Workforce Development (DWD).

**Summary of Assembly Bill 100/Senate Bill 77 (Governor's budget) proposal:**

1. Transfer 13.00 FTE state- and federally-funded positions on the DPI's School-To-Work Team from the DPI to the DWD.
2. Change the education for employment standard to a "school to work" standard. The state employment and training agency, DWD, not the state superintendent, would approve each school district's school-to-work program. In addition, the proposal requires that DWD, not the state superintendent, annually prepare a consolidated plan for the operation of school-to-work programs provided by school boards.

**The DPI's position on the proposal:**

- 
1. Wisconsin's school-to-work program is an educational program and is for the benefit of students. The program is expected to impact profoundly on prekindergarten through grade 12 education. The school-to-work staff, and school-to-work responsibilities, should remain in DPI so that the state educational agency can continue to plan and develop school-to-work programs and to guide and assist school districts as they implement them; this will be done in cooperation with the state agency responsible for employment and training programs (DWD).
  2. This proposal would impede making school to work an integral part of all prekindergarten through grade 12 curriculum. If enacted, consultation and assistance in school-to-work programs will come primarily from the state's employment and training agency; consultation and assistance in vocational and academic subjects will continue to come from DPI. Assistance to school districts in curriculum development will be unnecessarily fragmented and complicated.
  3. This proposal would separate school to work from closely related services such as consultation in marketing, technology education, family and consumer education, math, science, language arts, agriculture education, and business education; services to vocational student organizations; and guidance and counseling. It would also separate school-to-work staff from the funding they administer. For example, tech prep staff would work at DWD, but the federal tech prep funding for school districts would remain at DPI.
  4. The intent of some aspects of the proposal is unclear. For example, the proposal moves a position responsible for the GED/HSED programs to DWD, but the statutory responsibility for the program remains with DPI. Several positions with major fiscal and administrative responsibilities for programs that will remain in DPI are among those transferred. It is not known what the incumbents of the positions will do at DWD since program responsibility remains at DPI. Many of these program responsibilities will need to be met by other DPI staff.
  5.  The Wisconsin Supreme Court firmly established in Thompson vs. Craney (1996) that the state superintendent is the officer responsible for supervising public instruction in Wisconsin. The Court ruled that any other supervisor of public instruction must be subordinate to the state superintendent. This proposal, transfers educational responsibilities to other supervisors of public instruction who are not subordinate to the state superintendent.

## **BUDGET BILL INFORMATION**

This responds to your request for information about the proposed transfer of school alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) programs and staff from the Department of Public Instruction to the Department of Health and Family Services.

### **TRANSFER OF SCHOOL AODA PROGRAMS FROM DPI TO DHFS** **(Summary of Assembly Bill 100/Senate Bill 77 - Governor's Budget)**

1. Transfer 5.0 FTE program revenue-funded positions responsible for administration of AODA programs from the DPI to the DHFS.
2. Transfer administration of the following AODA programs, and their funding, from the DPI to the DHFS:
  - Assistance for alcohol and other drug abuse programs (\$1,900,300; \$1,248,500)
  - Grants for families and schools together programs (F.A.S.T.) (\$1,000,000 annually)
  - Grants for pupil AODA prevention projects (\$300,000 annually)
  - Grants for after-school and summer school programs (\$425,000 annually)
  - Youth AODA programs (\$1,800,000 annually)

### **THE DPI's POSITION ON THE PROPOSAL:**

1. These programs are educational programs and are for the benefit of students. Their funding will continue to count toward the state's 2/3 commitment to statewide school costs. The programs should remain in the state education agency.
2. This proposal would splinter AODA services to schools. Under the proposal, the transferred programs would be administered by DHFS; but the drug abuse resistance education (DARE) and the federal safe and drug-free schools grant programs would be administered by the DPI. This proposal also runs contrary to 1993 and 1996 Legislative Audit Bureau recommendations.
3. This proposal would hamper the coordination of AODA programs with other student services programs. DPI, not DHFS, administers school psychologist and social worker, school age parent, school-based AIDS prevention, school health, school nursing, alcohol and traffic safety, family-involvement-in-education, guidance and counseling, and children at risk programs.
4. This proposal would prove administratively burdensome—and confusing—to school districts and CESAs. It would create a second AODA grant application, approval and reporting process in a second state agency. Applicants and grantees would be faced with competing or duplicative directives from two state agencies administering similar grant programs. This occurs after DPI has created a streamlined, consolidated, multi-year, grant and program evaluation process.
5. The Supreme Court firmly established in *Thompson vs. Craney* that the state superintendent is the officer responsible for supervising public instruction in Wisconsin. The Court ruled that any other supervisor of public instruction must be subordinate to the state superintendent. This proposal transfers educational responsibilities to other supervisors of public instruction who are not subordinate to the state superintendent.

4-22-97

TO: Joint Finance Committee

FROM: Kathy Lippert, MSSW  
Social Worker w/ PATH (715) 839-0068  
Chair of WI Assoc of Child Foster Care Coordinators

RE: Foster Care Rate Increase + Other Supports

I was in attendance at the public hearing in Eau Claire, but due to time restraints, I was unable to testify. Therefore, please accept my written testimony.

The requests come to you on behalf of foster parents who are working at keeping kids safe as well as the community by providing excellent care to youth who cannot live at home.

To do a better job, foster parents need equitable reimbursement for the youth in their homes. Foster care is less expensive and more family-based than group care, child caring institutions and corrections. Please consider the following:

- 15% to the basic rates
- \$100 increase to the initial clothing allowance
- Access for foster parents to purchase State employee health insurance.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> of the year 1997

Respected Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee,

I am here at this Eau Claire meeting at Chippewa Valley Technical College today to represent the rural Eau Claire County parents, who are low income workers, farmers, parents, and citizens ~~benefitting~~ from the Head Start program. In this day with everyone pointing fingers at life in childhood as the problem for such crime and unstable citizens, would we not feel proud to have a program such as Head Start. It is due to this program that children learn to be prepared for the future, learn to accept each other as individuals, learn social norms and are prepared for the educational system. Some children of illiterate families now can learn to read and in some cases become the voice and secretary for the family, aiding in parent's life and affairs.

Head Start now is in jeopardy. The 1289 students now enrolled will be decreased in number by 212 if the budget is not increased by 15%. The important points to remember when considering this increase are:

- 1) 1993 was the last time Head Start in Wisconsin had an increase
- 2) Currently state support is only 83% of the federal cost per child.
- 3) More child service is now necessary due to W-2 reform
- 4) The programs provided for the families themselves are important at this time such as:
  - a) quality child care.
  - \* b) employment and job training (which is what W-2 wants;
  - c) family preservation and support.

Consider the above and please aid those programs that help W-2 work and work well. You can be sure that most people will be low income coming off of welfare at the beginning. The parents need Head Start, most of all future citizens, children

need this program.

Consider the possibility that programs such as Head Start may produce citizens, well balanced individuals. These same people may make prisons, where we spend so much money, a word forgotten. The buildings may turn into museums and dorms next to educational facilities. It can only be your aid that turns this into a fact.

I have lived in many countries abroad. Childcare was free, children were respected and valued. What is another stadium for sports if children can't be there to see the sport? Don't forget some of the best inventors, scientists, etc. came from low income families in the world. There is the potential in all. Intelligence is born in one, education is worked at and gotten. Let that intelligence shine through the HeadStart program's availability which allows the chance for education for all. There have been countries and times in history that have benefitted from having poorly educated people. There have been times when if one's parents were not educated, neither were the children given the chance. Are you trying to return to those times? Even if one has a disability of some sort, one is still a person! As science has shown, what we lack is compensated by other sense. Have you not heard of famous musicians who couldn't even write their name. Give everyone a chance. Please give HeadStart its 15% increase.

Sincerely,  
Anna Maria Stolorowicz  
Route 1 Box 342  
Augusta, WI 54722  
"amish country"  
(715) 286-2763

Dear Joint Finance Committee,

I am here today to urge your support that school districts participating in the SAGE program be funded for the 1997-98 and the 1998-99 school year. As you know Governor Thompson has proposed to freeze the money which will place this 5 year research project in jeopardy. There was a strong bipartisan support for the SAGE project in 1995. We feel that support is still there. We feel it will be very difficult to get any accurate result from this project if the funding does not allow us to move into Second Grade next year and to Third Grade the following year. The teachers at River Heights Elementary have worked very hard to implement this program. We have spent many hours above and beyond the regular day. We are feeling very frustrated that after only participating one year in this program that the funding is frozen. The SAGE program in our building has had a positive impact on all of our students not only Kindergarten-First Grade (that is directly involved in the program).

SAGE has directly impacted students in our building in numerous ways;

- \* Students have a class size of 15 to 1.
- \* Teachers can do flexible grouping 30 to 2 in a classroom.
- \* Teachers have more time to instruct small groups or individuals.
- \* Students get more time with their teacher(s).
- \* Teachers can get to students faster and meet their needs quicker.
- \* Students participate more in the class.
- \* Students have more time to discuss curriculum being taught.
- \* Students take on ownership of the classroom.
- \* Students become more involved in Education.
- \* Teachers and Principals have less discipline problems to deal with.
- \* Students have a positive attitude towards school.
- \* Teachers have more time to discover and meet different teaching styles.
- \* Increase in Parent/Teacher communication.

- \* It is easier to get to know 15 families and really become a support person for them.
- \* Teachers have more time to teach and less time for transitions from activity to activity.
- \* Students have benefited from a technology bought with SAGE funds.
- \* Students have benefited from a breakfast program.
- \* SAGE has made it possible for the community to use our building before and after school.
- \* After school tutoring.
- \* Literacy class held in the evening once a week for Hmong parents.
- \* Planning time for teachers.

We realize money is tight and you have to spend your money wisely. Supporting SAGE now will save you money later.

I would like to leave you with some questions:

If we don't support these children who will?

If we don't spend the money now, how much money will we have to spend later?

Janice Bellerman

Michelle Shufelt

Haren Gels

Kemi Hood

Paul Tennyson

Mary Begley

Michelle Gibson

Diane Long

Ron Kousela

Debbie Becker

Kathy Stanton

Bonnie Kousela

Diane A. Budt

Thomas M. Moyer

Janne Styzinski

# TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING

April 22, 1997 - Eau Claire, Wisconsin

by

J. Terry Downen, Principal  
Eau Claire North High School

Thanks to all the members of the committee for coming to Eau Claire to solicit citizen input regarding the proposed budget for 1997-1999.

While there are many exciting "wrinkles" in the proposed budget, I'd like to express a perspective about aspects of the budget which address changes proposed for the School-to-Work Initiative.

The deletion of the "school-based learning" focus in the proposed budget is a serious concern to schools which have been steadfast in developing School-to-Work options for all students in their enrollment. Schools in the Chippewa Valley, in general, and Eau Claire North High School, in particular, have addressed the concepts of "school-based learning" presently included in the legislation for School-to-Work. Consider the efforts of our faculty in developing curricula for a manufacturing youth apprenticeship, engineering youth apprenticeship; and integrated English language arts course entitled, "English for the 21st Century (where students prepare resumes, conduct job interviews, etc.), and Agriscience/Natural Resources course in biotechnology, applied and integrated physics opportunities in Principles of Engineering and Principles of Technology courses; an International Business class team-taught by a teacher in business education and a foreign language teacher; interdisciplinary courses linking algebra II and chemistry; Family/Consumer Education courses which link to the community in developing CNA's (certified nursing assistants); a complete offering of co-op courses in marketing education, technology education, family/consumer education, business education, and agriscience/natural resources; the establishment of a school Career Opportunities Center operated by a career technician who makes his services available to the public one evening a week; and the establishment of career assessment inventories and assessments through the Student Services Department to alert all students to their options and aptitudes. All of these are outgrowths of School-to-Work planned with the help of the Department of Public Instruction. And there is no support for continuing any of these efforts in the currently proposed budget.

Removing the support for school-based learning from the proposed budget and transferring the oversight for School-to-Work to the Department of Workforce Development clearly demeans our efforts to date, denies state support for linking students' efforts in school with those which their employers can teach at their work, and takes public K-12 elementary and secondary schools out of the game as far as involvement in, and responsibility for School-to-Work is concerned.

Given the variety and kinds of job shadowing, mentorships, youth apprenticeships and co-op



work experiences which have developed at North High School to provide students with "authentic" experiences in the world of employment, removal of the school-based learning component can only be seen as a step backward.

Robert Cole, former editor of Phi Delta Kappan, said it best: "Education for the 21st century is not a list; it is not a set of guidelines; it is not a curriculum; it's a way of thinking." The "way of thinking" which I would urge all legislators and educators to embrace is that all study leads to productivity and meaningfully contributes to work in support of Wisconsin's economy. Therefore, our aim ought to be to discover all the interconnections between learning and the workplace, to integrate theory and applications in as many of our high school courses as possible in order to create graduates who will be employable and knowledgeable whenever they join the workforce, and to recognize the support which high schools provide to the development of a continually improving, high quality workforce in our state. Can we possibly expect the Department of Workforce Development to have any credibility in promoting curricular integration among math, science, English, and social studies teachers in our schools? I think not.

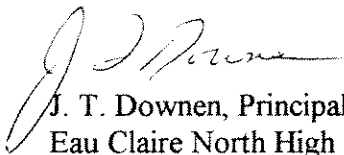
The Eau Claire Area School District recently completed a 2 1/2 year study of its high schools and adopted 22 recommendations aimed at ensuring the viability of our high schools in our city into the next century. This document clearly supports the fundamental principles of the School-to-Work Initiative, as evidenced by recommendations 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, and 22, listed on pp. 8-10 of the Task Force Report. [A copy of the study in its entirety is attached for the Committee's perusal.]

Taken together, these recommendations constitute this community's "blueprint for high school" into the future, is based on many surveys of our community's residents, and incorporates a solid plan for educating our adolescents to become employable, contributing members of our community and state. However, these efforts will be for naught, if they are not supported by our proposed state budget and its program for School-to-Work.

Therefore, I urge you to reconsider the deletion of the "school-based learning" component of School-to-Work, to restore responsibility for "school-based learning" to the Department of Public Instruction, and, thereby, to support the continuation of joint efforts and linkages between public K-12 schools and community businesses.

Thank you for considering this point of view.

Respectfully submitted,



J. T. Downen, Principal  
Eau Claire North High School

WHY MAINTAINING ADMINISTRATIVE SCHOOL BASED AODA PREVENTION PROGRAMS  
WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IS VITAL TO THE FUTURE  
OF PREVENTION AND BUILDING RESILIENCY FOR ALL YOUTH IN OUR STATE

Since 1989, the Black River Falls School District has used the DPI competitive grant programs to build a Comprehensive Prevention Program. The Department of Public Instruction and CESA #4 have helped us shape our possibilities, provided training and technical expertise. We have been able to integrate prevention into our classroom curriculums, provide parenting training for the community, with local volunteers developed a video/discussion program informing our community about risk and protective factors for youth and challenging them to become involved in prevention, developed a Student Assistance Program, and launched a school/family involvement program. (Summary of these grant funded building blocks follows.)

During this time we have helped establish a DARE program for Jackson County and supported many youth as they wrote and carried out mini-grants integrated with our comprehensive program. • The grant programs now in danger of fragmentation have helped us to maximize local resources and Safe and Drug Free Schools Funding. Each grant application has required us to coordinate with other prevention programs in our school as well as parents, and county wide agencies. In addition Together For Jackson County Kids, our county coalition of concerned individuals and agencies has served as our vision team and support group.

- Maintaining these School Based AODA Prevention Programs within the Department of Public Instruction will make certain that our programs and many programs like them are able to continue helping our youth without the threat of competing or duplicative directives from two state agencies. • The Department of Human and Family Services has little or no experience with school structures and school based programming. • Also because the schools are the agency having access to all school age youth, the schools and DPI are the agency best suited to providing programs of prevention education for youth and parents.

School based prevention is not an add on. Our prevention programs are integrated with our School District Strategic Plan and Goals 2000 comprehensive school based programs. • It is the DPI and not DFHS that administers student services programs such as guidance and counseling, alcohol and traffic safety, AIDS prevention, family-involvement-in-education and children at risk programs. These are the programs our AODA prevention and education programs coordinate with at the local level. • We have used the Department of Public Instruction to help us with this integration and if grant programs are moved to another agency we will lose the expertise of the DPI experts in the above areas. *and the coordination with Safe & Drug Free Schools.*

- All these programs are also part of public instruction in Wisconsin and the Supreme Court has established in Thompson VS. Craney that the state superintendent is the officer responsible for supervising public instruction in Wisconsin.

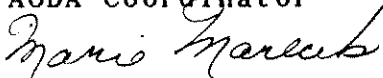
In 1988, the key players in prevention in Jackson County, parents, churches, schools, human services, prevention clinics, law enforcement agencies, the Ho-Chunk Nation, hospitals and UW Extension gathered together to form a county prevention coalition, Together For Jackson County Kids. In the nine years since then we have collaborated on joint trainings, public education, youth programs, and a common vision. The Department of Public Instruction and CESA #4 have been invaluable to us as we have worked together as a coalition to eliminate youth risk factors and increase youth resiliency.

- After nine years of successful community coalition efforts you are now asking us to take a new partner to lead us in prevention endeavors, a new partner who hears the music in a different way than we do, a new partner who may lead us where we are unable to follow. It is as if the nine years we have spent building youth programs, training school staff and community and strengthening families must be put aside while we learn to adjust to the moves of this new partner.

The Department of Public Instruction has been a supporting, informed partner and school based, parent and community involved AODA prevention programs will continue to grow under their experienced leadership. I ask that you continue to fund the school educational AODA programs under the continued direction and leadership of The Department of Public Instruction.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Marie Marecek  
Elementary Counselor  
AODA Coordinator



# **SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLACK RIVER FALLS COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

**Developed with Competitive Program Grants 1989-97**

## **1989-90 Program Grant - \$10,000. ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG MATRIX CURRICULUM EVALUATION**

This program grant allowed the Black River Falls School District to evaluate the components of prevention curriculum infused in current academic curriculums and special programs. A matrix of AOD curriculum was constructed using four AOD competencies.

1. AOD Information 2. Personal AOD Competency 3. Interpersonal Alcohol and Other Drug Competencies 4. Social Systems Alcohol and Other Drug Competencies A committee of school staff interviewed every grade level and department to determine objectives being taught. Areas of need were identified and recommendations made for curriculum integration. Results of this survey were used in making Drug Free Schools spending decisions. A newsletter was sent to all district homes presenting information about the prevention curriculum and other prevention programs. This matrix was updated in our 1995 -96 program grant.

## **1991-92 \$9,296. Program Grant - PARENTING**

Seventy-one persons from the community and school were trained in the principles of Active Parenting. This provided our district with a core of knowledgeable persons to conduct and promote parenting sessions. In 1995-96 a renewal parenting inservice was held and Love and Logic parenting sessions conducted by our school psychologist were added to the parenting program. Active Parenting 1-2-3-4 was added to this program in 1996-97. In all at least 26 four to eight week parenting sessions have been conducted.

This program was named as an exemplary program by the Department of Public Instruction.

## **1992-93 Program Grant \$6,710. EXPANDING RELATIONSHIPS**

A school, parent and community group presented highlights of recent youth drug and alcohol usage and attitudes survey, summary of AODA programs, risk and protective factors in a video discussion program, using local youth and adults as part of the video and as presentation leaders for community and parent groups. Groups were challenged to become involved in making a difference for youth.

Twenty seven community youth and school volunteers were involved in program design and presentation.

Presentations were made to 27 organizations and over 800 persons and this program was named an exemplary project and shared statewide at Program Sharing Conference.

**THIS PROGRAM LED TO AWARENESS OF NEED FOR A STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN OUR SCHOOLS, THIS WAS OUR NEXT AREA OF EMPHASIS.**

1994-95 - Program Grant \$30,000. **BRF STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Through Drug Free Schools and other funding we trained forty staff and community members in June 1994. This put us in an excellent position to obtain a competitive program grant to fund facilitator training, materials to support Student Assistance programs, staff inservice and fund a half time position to help develop policies and procedures, assist staff with SAP program design, organize material and promote the student assistance program.

Along with the above mentioned goals, this grant allowed 27 staff to be facilitator trained, an additional 25 staff were CORE trained, an all day student assistance inservice for all staff, 37 staff attended a Stress Reduction college credit class, a system was set up to fund CORE team leaders in each school, and 14 support groups were conducted in K-12.

1995-96 - Program Grant \$28,480. **BRF PROGRAM COORDINATION AND LINKING**

This project allowed us to continue the development of Student Assistance Programs, reenergize parenting programs and link prevention programs to the goals developed in the Black River Falls School District's strategic planning process and our school's staff development plan. The goal of this project was to begin the process of linking the comprehensive AODA program to a larger school program targeting the development of resilient youth.

During this project 13 additional persons were facilitator trained and parenting programs were reenergized at an all day workshop attended by 25 staff and community. 25 student support groups were conducted in the schools.

1996-97 - Two Year Program Grant **SCHOOL/FAMILY BUILDING RESILIENCY**

Year One \$29,997 Year Two - \$29,850.

With research showing the importance of building family/school involvement in the growth and development of the resilient young child, and the school district's strategic plan goal of increasing family involvement, it seemed very logical that we find ways to provide the prevention programs we had previously developed to the families of children who at most at risk of academic, and thus also social and emotional failure. This program allows us to provide a home/school liaison to make weekly home calls with packets of academic support to families whose children in grade one are at academic risk. School/home liaison also provides parenting and school adjustment information. She has already prevented the withdrawal from school and home schooling of one at risk child through the relationship she has built with the parent. (this by parent report) This program works closely with the Title I program. It will take at least another year of refining this project to to show the potential benefits of a school/home liaison in our district.

The combined cost of the above grants from 1989 - 1997 (does not include year two of present grant) is \$87,483. Many prevention tasks have been accomplished with this funding and have made the use of our Safe and Drug Free School Funding more effective.

However **WE CAN NOT SEE PREVENTION** and the task we have set upon now is the most difficult of any yet. However if we can help just one child to achieve, to become a more productive resilient teen, we have repaid the price of all the grants combined as it costs \$100,000. to maintain a young person in prison for two or three years.



Center for Independent Living  
for Western Wisconsin, Inc.

Located at UW-Stout  
Menomonie, WI 54751

April 22, 1997

Senator Brain Burke, Co-Chair, Joint Finance  
Representative Scott Jensen, Co-Chair, Joint Finance

Dear Senator Burke, Representative Jensen, and Members of the Joint Finance Committee:

I am the Director of the Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, a non-profit organization that serves persons with a disability, including elderly, in a 10 county area of Western Wisconsin. Our goal is to facilitate individuals being able to live and participate in their community to the greatest extent possible.

The great state of Wisconsin is comprised of many communities and the strength of those communities is the individuals who live, work, recreate, and volunteer there. That includes the sizable number of persons with disabilities (estimated to be 10 per cent of the general population) and the increasing number of persons who are elderly. It is of grave concern that it continues to be easier to put someone in an institution, particularly a nursing home, than to provide services of equal costs in the community. Families with a disabled member face increasing shortages in services to support keeping their member at home but find doors open to institutional care. I urge you to "Keep a Community Promise" and support the following:

**1. Increases in the Community Options Program (COP):** The Governor's proposed budget includes a \$132 million increase for nursing homes, but only \$5 million increase for COP, an increase of 400 slots. An equal increase of \$132 million for COP would allow 13,000 more people to be served by COP/COP Waiver, eliminating the 8,900 people on statewide waiting lists.

**2. Specialized Transportation:** The Governor's proposal includes \$12 million for the Brewers to move a highway but only \$600,000 increases for specialized transportation for elders and people with disabilities. Please put a higher priority on human needs.

**3. Medical Assistance (Title 19) Co-Payments:** The poorest of the poor cannot afford increases in co-pays. Please do not support the Governor's proposal to increase ALL co-pays to federal allowable maximums.

**4. Non-Institution Medical Assistance Providers (Such as Home Health Agencies, dentists, etc):** The Governor proposes a 1% increase (MUCH LOWER THAN THE PROPOSED INCREASE FOR NURSING HOMES!!). Please support a minimum increase of 3%, and a higher increase for Personal Care and Dentists whose MA reimbursement rates cause increasing difficulties in finding providers/workers willing to work for the MA rate.

**5. Family Support and Birth to Three:** These programs enable families to keep their disabled family member home but have received no proposed increases in the Governor's budget. Please provide \$4 million to eliminate the 1822-family waiting list for the Family Support Program and the DHFS proposed re-estimate for the Birth to Three Program.

**6. SSI and AFDC:** The Governor's proposes to eliminate the AFDC payments to 1,500 families headed by a parent with a disability on SSI, and replace them with a \$77 per child monthly payment to the parent. This represents a 65% loss of income to an average family. I urge you to provide a state supplement equal to the amount a family received from AFDC or the kinship care level of \$215 per child per month.

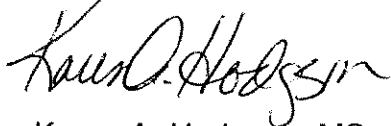
**7. CIP 1B Rate:** A minimal 3% inflationary rate increase is needed to help adults get out of nursing homes to live on their own; the Governor's proposal contains no rate increase, while as stated earlier there is a SIGNIFICANT increase proposed for nursing homes.

**8. Long-Term Care Redesign and Behavioral Health Pilot Program:** There are tremendous and significant changes being proposed in the delivery of long-term care services. There is no funding for pilots in the Governor's proposal. These dramatic changes need to be tested through pilots as recommended by DHFS to assure that the new systems truly are cost efficient as well as quality services.

**9. Independent Living Centers:** The eight independent living centers in Wisconsin serve an ever increasing number of persons with a disability throughout the state yet have had no increase in base funding for over 5 years. I urge you to provide an additional increase of \$200,000 per year to be divided among the centers.

Thank you for your attention to these requests. I am available at 715 898-2900 to answer questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Karen A. Hodgson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Karen A. Hodgson, MS  
Executive Director



My name is Tom Bomber. I am employed as an elementary school counselor in the Eau Claire Area School District. I also serve as the first vice president of the Eau Claire Association of Educators. As such, I am the head of our local negotiations team, and have served in this position for the past five years.

When I first became involved in the bargaining process at the local school district level, the law we worked under gave access to the mediation-arbitration process if the sides could not come to a voluntary settlement. Through this process, teacher salaries kept pace with the cost of living. Then, in 1993, the legislature passed a change in this law which introduced the concept of the Qualified Economic Offer. The intent of this change was to restrict teacher salaries, which has been accomplished. In Eau Claire, our professional staff has lost thousands of dollars in purchasing power since 1993. A veteran teacher with a Master's degree and no additional credits has lost over \$4,300 to the cost of living in the last four years. Worse yet, their retirement has been reduced by more than \$600 annually for the rest of their lives, as retirement income is based on the employees final average salary (see attachment). And our base salary has not kept up to the starting salaries in other professions, therefore prompting bright, young people to look outside education for their career choices.

But there are other, less measurable consequences that can be traced to the imposition of this law. Wisconsin has a proud history of fair and reasonable bargaining between employer and employee. This tradition was built on the relative equality between the two sides. But this is no longer the case. The Q.E.O. law has drastically tipped the scales in favor of the school board. In order to get a "full" 3.8% total package, we have had to give up several important benefits, with little or no improvements realized for our members. This imbalance has resulted in a growing dissatisfaction among my fellow educators. Their frustration has been targeted at administration as well as internally. And this frustration comes at a time when there is increasing pressure on educators to show results, change our methods of delivery, work longer and harder to get the

job done. My fear is that these good people, these fine professionals, will say, "Why bother?" When their efforts are not recognized with a reasonable and just salary, they will question why these efforts should be made. And our bright, young educators will leave our profession and go somewhere where their efforts will be rewarded. Is this what our government leaders had in mind when they passed this damaging law? I hope not.

This law should have been allowed to sunset as originally intended. You have a chance to right a wrong and recognize the efforts of the people who make Wisconsin #1 in education. It is time to kill the Q.E.O.

Thank you.

**THREE-YEAR IMPACT OF THE QEO  
ON EAU CLAIRE TEACHER SALARIES**

January 13, 1997

1. 1992-93 MA MAX (No Credits) - 43,200
2. 30 years of service at end of the 1996-97 school year

YEAR	QEO	FULL 3.8	CPI	\$ DIFF.	CUM. \$ DIFF.
1993-94	43,740 (1.25)	44,045 \$845 (1.96)	44,496 (3.0)	\$ 451	\$ 451
1994-95	44,287	45,111 \$1066 (2.42)	45,831	\$ 720	\$1,171
1995-96	44,841	45,806 \$695 (1.54)	47,206	\$1,400	\$2,571
1996-97	45,402	46,868 \$1062 (2.32)	48,622	\$1,754	\$4,325

In just four years, the MA Maximum Step has decreased \$1,754 vs. the cost of living. A teacher at that step has realized a \$4,325 loss to the CPI.

3. Impact on Retirement of a 30-year teacher retiring at the end of the 1996-97 school year.

Full 3.8% Final Average Earnings - \$45,928 (3,827)  
CPI Final Average Earnings - 47,220 (3,935)

Full 3.8% Monthly Annuity - \$1,837/month  
CPI Monthly Annuity - 1,889/month

\$52/month X 12 = \$624/year for life.

Chippewa Falls Area School District



*"Together we can make a difference!"*

April 22, 1997

To the Joint Finance Committee:

As a parent, community member, school counselor and AODA Coordinator, I am **extremely opposed to the transfer of school AODA program funds from the DPI to the Department of Human and Family Resources (Assembly Bill 100 / Senate Bill 77).**

Drug use and violence-prone behaviors are rising at an alarming rate in the Chippewa Falls community. In fact, it is at record levels in most areas of concern. Drug use and abuse is occurring at an earlier age than ever before. Last spring the Chippewa Falls School District surveyed over 1000 students in grades 8th, 10th and 12th. We found that drug use among our 8th graders has increased at staggering rates:

- Marijuana use has increased from 2% (1993) to 25% (1996)
- Alcohol consumption has increased from 41% (1993) to 49% (1996)
- Cigarette use has increased from 24% (1993) to 49% (1996)

Juvenile crime involving alcohol and other drugs have increased significantly from 15% to 400% between 1995 and 1996.

Our children and our communities are facing a crisis of record proportion. **Now is not the time to dismantle and fragment AODA programs. The Department of Public Instruction has been an effective and vital system in administering and assisting education programs to address AODA issues.**

If you remove this funding, you will literally and adversely affect literally thousands of children and ultimately the safety and health of our communities.

**Please leave the AODA funding and administration where it can most effectively be administered...with the DPI.** In other words, "If it's not broken, please don't fix it!"

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judi Gunderman".  
Judi Gunderman

---

*Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Program*

MAUREEN A. MCGINNITY - President  
Foley & Lardner

HAROLD O.M. ROCHA - VP & Secretary  
UW Law School

NANCY D. FORTNEY  
Treasurer

U.S. Marketing Corporation

DOROTHY BUCKHANAN  
Milwaukee Employer Accords

SHERRI N. COE-PERKINS  
Marquette University

MICHAEL G. DAVIS  
Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism  
& Drug Dependence

LINDA L. DAVIS  
Community Volunteer

MARY GLASS  
Campaign Neighborhood, Inc.

SUSAN A. LUEGER  
Northwestern Mutual Life

SUSAN J. MARKS  
Prostaff

JUDITH C. MURPHY  
M & I Trust Company

SALLY R. PELTZ  
Medical College of Wisconsin

RICHARD W. SCHULZE  
Harnischfeger Industries

PATRICIA B. SHIRLEY  
Milwaukee County Medical  
Health Complex

CARY SILVERSTEIN  
JH Collectibles

ANITA K. SPENCER  
Project Respect

BARBARA STEIN  
Community Activist

MARTIN F. STEIN  
EyeCare One

ALLAN R. STRAUSS  
Attorney at Law

DAVID B. WESCOE  
Manpower International

RICHARD P. WIEDERHOLD  
Elizabeth A. Brinn Foundation

## TASK FORCE ON FAMILY VIOLENCE

KITTY KOCOL

MARTIN F. STEIN - CHAIR

Chairman

EyeCare One

STEPHEN L. CHERNOF

Partner

Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.

JOHN GALANIS

Partner

Galanis, Pollack & Jacobs, S.C.

STEPHEN N. GRAFF

Managing Partner

Arthur Andersen, S.C.

GENEVA B. JOHNSON

Retired

Family Service America

JAMES C. McDONALD

Retired

Northwestern Mutual Life

DANIEL F. MCKEITHAN, JR.

President

Tamarack Penitentiary

JEANETTE MITCHELL

Board of Directors

Milwaukee Public Schools

BETTY QUADRACCI

Publisher

Milwaukee Magazine

## Testimony presented by Kitty Kocol, Executive Director of the Task Force on Family Violence of Milwaukee, in to the Wisconsin Legislature's Joint Finance Committee Eau Claire Wisconsin April 22, 1997

Good Morning, and thanks for the opportunity to speak to you. My name is Kitty Kocol. I serve as executive director of the Task Force on Family Violence, which is a 22 year-old nonprofit agency, and the oldest of its kind in Milwaukee County.

I drove here to urge you to make an investment in the health and safety of Wisconsin families by committing \$3.83 million in the '97-'98 biennial budget for family violence services.

I believe this investment is prudent, I'd like tell you why, and I'd like to use my agency as an illustration.

Our two key program areas at the Task Force on Family Violence are victim advocacy and batterer's education. We are essential to the police who refer 60% of our clients to us. We are essential to judges, who refer abusers from their courts to our batterer's program. We are essential to court commissioners, because each and every month, we assist the 420 victims who appear before them to obtain a restraining order. Finally, probation and parole\* relies on us to report noncompliance, if an abuser does not complete batterers' education as part of his sentence.

You might find this analogy strange, but I see my agency, and others like it, as the equivalent of motor oil in an expensive and complex machine that we've built to deal with this crime. We make that machine run more efficiently, and that helps the tax-paying public maximize its investment.

Family violence providers are also going to play an essential role in making welfare reform work, because we know that at least 25 percent of all domestic violence victims will lose a job because of the violence.

*\*In fact, I learned yesterday in a meeting with Milwaukee's Chief Judge Patrick Sheedy, that half of the misdemeanors indicted done by community corrections have domestic violence in their backgrounds.*

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As you in the legislature were working on W2, we at the Task Force began to pilot a program called "Employer Bridges." Through "Employer Bridges," we now contact a victim's employer at her request. We help that employer understand the victim's need to miss work and how violence may be impacting her ability to work. We're holding seminars for employers, to teach them about the practical and legal issues that occur when family violence enters the workplace. Since we launched "Employer Bridges" in August of last year, 344 workers have asked for our help, and in approximately 5 percent of those cases, we can show that we helped save their jobs. Our "Employer Bridges" program is innovative, but the work of virtually all providers of domestic violence services helps women keep jobs while recovering from family violence.

So far, I've described two good arguments for investing in family violence services. First is our oil in the machine effect, and second is employment retention. I'd like to offer a third. We bring private dollars to the table. Statewide, the average nonprofit domestic violence agency raises 25 cents of every dollar that it spends. And at my agency, we raise 53 cents of every dollar we spend. We truly are putting our money where our mouth is when we ask this legislature for increased funding.

My agency is one of four domestic violence agencies in the terribly underserved county of Milwaukee, and it receives no funding allocation from the state of Wisconsin. But I am not here just to talk to you about my agency, because 39 Wisconsin counties have little or no state funding for crisis services for victims. And because one out of four families will experience this problem, whether they live in Milwaukee or Bayfield, we need a commitment from the state legislature.

So I am asking, on behalf of my Board of Directors, with the support of colleagues on the Milwaukee Commission Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, from colleagues on the Wisconsin Council Against Domestic Violence, and colleagues on the Governor's Council on Domestic, for you to make a wise economic decision as well as a sound public policy decision, and support the \$3.83 million request of the domestic violence services providers in Wisconsin. It's a needed investment that is nicely leveraged by the work of staff and volunteers around the state. Thank you.

# **DOMESTIC ABUSE PROGRAM FUNDING**

## **Wisconsin Biennial Budget Request 1997-1999**

### **Accessible Crisis Services in Every County for Every Victim**

Continuous services include advocacy, counseling (including support groups), transportation as needed, referral, follow-up, outreach and community education. The program must provide twenty-four hour crisis call coverage and have on-site services at the designated location at least forty hours per week. Primary administrative support should be, when possible, in existing domestic abuse programs.

The Governor has proposed spending available domestic abuse assessment revenue to fund eight new programs of this type. Federal funding through the Violence Against Women Act will fund three new programs. The following funding must be available to assure services are available in the remaining counties and tribes:

28 programs @ \$30,000 = \$ 840,000

### **Programs for Under-Served Populations**

Wisconsin is home to populations of victims of domestic abuse and their children who, because of race, language barriers, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, physical or mental ability, culture and/or geographic location, have not had access to domestic abuse services. To begin to remedy this situation, the state must fund at least two local programs designed by and for under-served populations. A half-time staff person would be available to provide basic crisis services and advocacy.

2 programs @ \$39,000 = \$ 78,000

Various under-served populations reside in small clusters throughout Wisconsin. To serve this group efficiently and effectively, a comprehensive statewide approach must be taken. It is proposed that the state fund:

1 statewide program @\$100,000 = \$100,000

## Children's Services

Currently, the state provides no funding for specialized services for children except \$145,000 earmarked for special demonstration projects. Services for children from violent homes must include assessments, orientation, individual counseling, age appropriate education (including dating violence), referral, follow up, support groups, safety planning and community education and outreach. The state funding necessary to achieve this goal is:

48 programs @ \$30,000 =	\$1,440,000
8 programs @ 12,000 =	96,000*

\*Eight domestic abuse programs receive approximately \$18,000 each to provide children's services. An additional \$95,000 is needed to bring these programs up to the standard level of funding.

## Summary

28 non-shelter crisis service programs @	\$ 30,000 =	\$ 840,000
2 programs serving under-served populations @	39,000 =	78,000
1 statewide program for under-served populations @	100,000 =	100,000
48 programs @	30,000 =	1,440,000
8 programs @	12,000 =	96,000

Total annual funding needed

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\$2,554,000

Total Biennial Budget Request

\$3,831,000



### Counties Currently Without Continuous Programs

Adams	Florence	Marquette	Trempeleau
Barron	Forest	Monroe	Vilas
Bayfield	Green Lake	Oconto	Washburn
Buffalo	Iowa	Pepin	Waupaca
Burnett	Jackson	Price	Waushara
Calumet	Jefferson	Sawyer	
Clark	Juneau	Shawano	
Crawford	Lafayette	St. Croix	

Milwaukee has been added as a county in need of an additional non-residential program. Currently, three state funded domestic abuse programs are located in Milwaukee to serve potentially approximately 96,000 battered women. Additionally, one program without any state funding serves battered women, children and men.

### Tribes Currently Without Continuous Programs

Bad River	Sokaogan
Ho-Chunk	Stockbridge-Munsee
Lac Courte Orielles	
Potawatomi	
Red Cliff	
St. Croix	

2514 South 30th Street  
LaCrosse, Wisconsin 54601  
April 21, 1997

To the members of the Joint Finance Committee  
Wisconsin Legislature

This letter is written in support of additional resources for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program by the Wisconsin legislature. Federal funding has not kept pace with inflation and the state of Wisconsin funds have not increased since 1988.

Statewide over 10,000 volunteers provide over a million hours of service each year with the Coulee Region Retired and Volunteer Program providing the services of over a thousand volunteers. While the emphasis traditionally has been on the people who receive the help from volunteers, what is equally important is the positive impact on those who are willing to serve others in so many ways through this program.

I would strongly urge that the additional funds be provided to multi county RSVP programs-funding that at the present is the same as for single county projects. Equity in staffing would mean more volunteers opportunities in these counties with significantly more people being served.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for added support for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. There is no better value for the dollars spent than in this program which benefits not only people of all ages with the work volunteers contribute, but what happens to those who offer these services.

Cordially,



Robert J. Kuechmann

TESTIMONY TO JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE  
EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN  
APRIL 22, 1997

Lori Beckstrom  
417 South 11th Street  
LaCrosse, WI 54601  
Coulee Region RSVP  
Chairman of Advisory  
Council

Volunteers are a precious resource in our communities across Wisconsin. Their services give compassion and a caring spirit to our local communities that make us proud to live there.

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs that presently operate in 28 counties in our state have served a significant role in the recruitment and placement of thousands of senior volunteers throughout Wisconsin and our nation.

Volunteers are serving as tutors in our schools, as role models for children in teaching basic alcohol and other addictions education to our young, serving as peer counselors for the lonely and widowed elderly, delivering homebound meals to the elderly frail and disabled people allowing them to remain independent in their own homes, joining forces with our local police and sheriffs' departments to educate their peers in the promotion and prevention of securing our neighborhoods as safe places to live and many, many other important assignments.

Continuing inflation and a growing aging population require us to come to ask for your support in improving and expanding this effective program in the State of Wisconsin.

We are requesting an additional \$837, 500 in state funding. These funds will provide for inflationary costs for the present 16 projects that serve 28 counties. Expanded service is planned for 10 more counties with the addition of two new projects and the placement of 35 new Senior Companions. Senior Companions are low-income seniors who are age 60 or above and are provided with a stipend to supplement their incomes. They provide person to person assistance to the homebound so that they can remain in their homes rather than be institutionalized.

Your support is critical to the continued effectiveness of this program!

JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING ---APRIL 22, 1997

MARK WEINHOLD  
E9491 830TH AVENUE  
COLFAX, WI 54730

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE COMMITTEE FOR ALLOWING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY BEFORE YOU TODAY.

MY NAME IS MARK WEINHOLD. I LIVE WITH MY FAMILY IN COLFAX, A SMALL TOWN LOCATED BETWEEN EAU CLAIRE AND MENOMONIE. I WORK AT THE LOCAL GROCERY STORE AS A MEAT CUTTER.

WHEN I TOOK A LOOK AT THE GOVERNORS PROPOSED BUDGET I WAS PLEASED TO SEE THERE WOULD BE NO DECREASE IN THE BUDGET TARGETED AT THE U.W. SYSTEM. HOWEVER I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE 5% CUT PROPOSED FOR U.W. EXTENSION. I BELIEVE IT IS UNJUST TO FOCUS THIS CUT AT CONTINUING EDUCATION AND W.P.R.

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL CITIZENS THROUGH OUT OUR ENTIRE LIVES. I SEE THIS CUT AS BEING DIRECTED AT THOSE OF US WORKING CLASS TAX PAYERS WHO HAVE NEITHER THE TIME OR FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO PARTICIPATE IN A FORMAL HIGHER EDUCATIONS SETTING.

I AM ESPECIALLY UPSET OVER CONTINUED CUTS IN FUNDING FOR WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO.

I HAVE BEEN A CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS ON TWO DIFFERENT OCCASIONS. BEING WHAT SOME WOULD TERM AS AN UNCONVENTIONAL CANDIDATE WHO NEEDED TO WORK FULL TIME THROUGH OUT MY CAMPAIGNS, W.P.R. PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN MY EFFORTS.

FIRST W.P.R. IS THE ONLY BROADCAST MEDIA - AND I WOULD GO SO FAR AS TO SAY THE ONLY NEWS AND INFORMATION MEDIA IN THE STATE WHICH PUTS ALL CANDIDATES ON AN EVEN PLAYING FIELD. AFTER EACH APPEARANCE ON W.P.R. I WAS CONTACTED BY LISTENERS ALL OVER THE 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WHO I COULD NOT HAVE REACHED ANY OTHER WAY WITH THE RESOURCES I HAD AVAILABLE TO ME.

BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT IS THE SOURCE OF INFORMATION WPR IS TO ME. I AM FORTUNATE TO WORK AT A JOB WHERE I AM ABLE TO LISTEN TO WPR ALL DAY SIX DAYS A WEEK. WPR WAS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE I HAD TO EDUCATE MYSELF ON THE ISSUES. NEWSPAPERS MAGAZINES OR TELEVISIONS CAN NOT COME CLOSE TO PROVIDING AS MANY HOURS AND DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW ON AS MANY SUBJECTS AS WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO DOES.

THE EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES A SOCIETY HAS. WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO IS SUCH A VALUABLE EDUCATING TOOL, I BELIEVE THAT JUST LIKE OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, EVEN IF ALL TAX PAYERS DO NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS RESOURCE, WE ALL HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP PAY FOR IT. NOW USER FEES ARE ALSO IMPORTANT AND I AM NOT ONLY A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF THE WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO ASSOCIATION, BUT I VOLUNTEER

TO HELP OUT AT THE RADIO AUCTION AND DURING THE PLEDGE PERIODS WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO HAS. AS A RESULT I UNDERSTAND THAT WHILE LISTENER CONTRIBUTIONS ARE UP, THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH MONEY WHICH CAN BE GAINED IN THIS MANNER.

TO KEEP THE QUALITY WHICH MAKES W.P.R. THE ENVY OF EVERY OTHER STATE IN THE NATION, OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING MUST BE FOUND AND THAT MEANS AN EVER INCREASING RELIANCE ON CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE FORM OF UNDERWRITING. \* THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT MAKES A PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT, LISTENER AND CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS IMPORTANT. WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO PRESENTS A FAIR AND BALANCED PROGRAM. I KNOW THAT W.P.R. WOULD RESIST ALL ATTEMPTS TO INFLUENCE THAT BALANCE. HOWEVER WITH INCREASING CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS. HOW LONG BEFORE A PRODUCER EITHER SUBCONSCIOUSLY OR KEEPS IN THE BACK OF THEIR MIND - IS THE IMPORTANCE OF OFFERING THIS SHOW OUT WEIGH THE POSSIBILITY OF OFFENDING A CONTRIBUTOR?

I WOULD ASK THIS COMMITTEE TO THINK LONG AND HARD AND CONSIDER ALL THE RAMIFICATIONS BEFORE YOU ALLOW ANY MORE CUTS IN FUNDING FOR U.W. EXTENSION.

I ONCE AGAIN THANK THIS COMMITTEE AND ASK THAT I BE ALLOWED TO SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY IN WRITING, AND I WOULD BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

*I should be noted that WPRR now receives a higher % of funding from Corp. than from U.W. Extension*

JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 1997-99 BUDGET  
APRIL 22, 1997 EAU CLAIRE, WI

Members of the Joint Finance Committee, legislators from the Chippewa Valley, I appreciate the opportunity to present testimony regarding the 1997-99 budget. My name is Paul Cook. I am the coordinator of St. Joseph's Hospital Home Health Services in Chippewa Falls, which provides services to over 570 clients in the Chippewa Valley on an average day. I am here today to advocate for the needs of those clients, whose health status makes it difficult for them to leave home and advocate for themselves.

I have been involved in this last year with the effort by the Department of health and Family Services to redesign the long term care program in this state. You all know that this is a matter that is becoming increasingly more urgent as our population continues to age and put demands on our existing system. One of the fundamental points of discussion throughout this entire year has been the need to shift more of the long term care system away from the institutional bias, creating more balance in funding and utilization with home and community services. Secretary Leraan has done an admirable job in pushing this project forward. However, I am disappointed both as a participant in the process and as a long term care provider in this budget. The nursing home industry is budgeted for an increase of \$132 million dollars over the biennium. In contrast, COP is budgeted for less slots than are needed to address waiting lists, and the Home Health industry is budgeted for a 1% increase, which translates into miniscule increases for nursing, home health aide, and personal care services. These services contribute the health management component to the social supports that are provided through COP funding in order to create the infrastructure of long term care in the home and community.

If we are truly on the verge of building a new long term care system in the state that helps to sustain people in their homes first, then we need to invest in those components that provide care in the home. The Home Health industry has not received a rate increase in the last 7 years. In fact, in fiscal year 1995 due to coverage and policy changes, as well as efficiencies in the industry, Home Health was \$39.1 million under budget. None of these dollars went back to homecare, however. Instead, they were returned to the general fund.

It is difficult to compete in today's labor market for workers, especially with our rate of unemployment being as low as it is. It is even more difficult to compete when our reimbursement rate (which has not changed for 7 years) does not allow us as employers to keep pace with our workers cost of living. This is especially true with personal care workers, who are also being attracted to fast food chains, grocery stores, and other businesses using non skilled workers (even though personal care workers are required to have 40 hours of training). This might be well and good for the marketplace, but when it comes to providing quality care for a rapidly growing population in need of services, we had better have a capable workforce to meet this need. It would be a major crisis to have a well designed long term care system, and not enough workers to make it happen. This is a very real issue right now, and it is early in the game. Our current emphasis on education and property tax reform is certainly laudable, but we need to recognize the importance of preparing for the massive <sup>impact</sup> ~~ness~~ of this population shift. Now is the time to begin making the investment in long term care in the home. It needs to start with a stronger dollar commitment to the Home Health industry.

The industry has presented a proposal to increase the budgets dollars for Home Health to \$1.6 million for skilled nursing, \$1.9 million for home health aide services, and \$20 million for personal care services. Compared to \$132 million for nursing homes, this seems reasonable. This increase will allow agencies to attract workers through better salaries and benefits. It will give agencies an opportunity to build a workforce that is capable and prepared to meet the growing long term care needs of this state.

Thank you again for this opportunity to share my views.





## Chippewa County Department of Public Health

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April 22, 1997

To the Joint Finance Committee:

Re: 1997-99 Wisconsin Biennial Budget

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to provide input on the proposed biennial budget. I believe it is a very important step in your decision making process to get public input. I wish to comment on the following budgetary items:

1. Proposed elimination of primary care grants to local health departments: All local health departments are required to perform community health needs assessments. The primary care allocation is the only remaining discretionary funds which were awarded to local health departments to provide a primary care service needed in the local community. In Chippewa County with our last award of \$9428 we were able to assist 54 uninsured children and subsidize \$4623 of diagnostic and preventive care from a physician, dentist or eye doctor. This averages out to \$175 per child, a very low cost with great health benefits. While our local funding and the funding of \$250,000 statewide is not enough to meet the need, elimination of any option whatsoever to assist children without insurance is very untimely.

2. Deletion of \$2.66 million in GPR funding for the immunization program: Wisconsin health care providers including health departments have been successful in immunizing children against measles, mumps and rubella.

However, the need to monitor immunization status and deliver immunizations is far from over. Over the last year the varicella or chickenpox vaccine was added. An acellular form of pertussis was newly licensed for more age groups. New recommendations added injectable polio vaccine to the vaccines given. A new recommendation was adopted to provide tetanus boosters to 11 and 12 year olds. Finally, an initiative to immunize all seventh graders against hepatitis B is at the public hearing stage as HSS 144. This means giving 3 shots over a period of 6 months to all seventh graders. The current immunization schedule is confusing to parents and it takes a lot of staff time to explain, to recall children, to promote immunizations. Additionally, the new improved vaccines which cause fewer side effects in some cases, also bear a higher purchase price.

The funds that the Chippewa County Department of Public Health has used over the past two years have improved the administration and documentation of immunizations by 20%. While Wisconsin has made progress, our percentage of two year olds immunized on time is still less than Mississippi. There is room for improvement. This is not the time to back off on funding the immunization program.

3. Farmer's Market WIC Program: This funding makes good sense for many reasons. Everyone should eat five fruits and vegetables a day. Providing fresh fruits and vegetables to some of Wisconsin's neediest women and children through the farmer's market is a good investment in their health. Programs which allow for purchase of produce and support our farmers is important for their economic health. Actually, this funding does not go far enough. It only funds the status quo which is support for farmer's markets in Milwaukee, Dane and Eau Claire County. Farmers in our rural counties and in my own Chippewa County can not currently participate. It is to Wisconsin's benefit to support not only women and children statewide, but farmers. The Farmer's Market WIC Program should not only be funded, but

funds should be increased in order to expand this program statewide.

4. Return of State GPR funding for WIC: The state removed the \$2 million funding in the last biennium. The result is that there is no more GPR funds to support WIC administration. The outcome will likely be more of the money taken from local projects to administer their programs while continuing the expectation of maintaining the same level of services. It can not be done. The services can not continue with an up-to 7% decrease in local funding. This is another reason that additional funding for state WIC administration through the Farmer's Market initiative or other sources makes sense.

5. Women's Health Initiative: This initiative will provide grants for health screening services for low income and uninsured women. It will strengthen domestic abuse enforcement and provide funds for women's health education. The governor is to be commended for proposing this initiative and it deserves your support.

6. Children's Health Insurance Study: All children deserve health care services. Therefore, a study of the best way to provide insurance to children makes sense. If Wisconsin ever receives a waiver for Medicaid which permits children to be dropped after five years, the need for children's health insurance will burgeon. This is an opportunity to be proactive and plan for a service which supports the health of children. It would also be very untimely for WisconCare to lapse over \$600,000 of funds back to the general fund. These funds should remain in the insurance program and be considered as a means to expand the initiative beyond 17 counties to all children.

7. Increase the cigarette excise fee: Realizing that funding is limited in state government, some of the programs listed above may need new revenue sources. An increase in the cigarette excise fee and earmarking some of the new revenue to support health initiatives makes economic sense. This

would include a statewide campaign to prevent teens from starting smoking. According to a 1993 St. Norbert College survey, 73% of Wisconsin citizens support a \$1.00 per pack cigarette fee increase and this includes nearly one-third of smokers. With so much support from the majority of Wisconsin citizens, certainly you can have the political will to take this action. It has been documented in other states that an increase in tobacco tax keeps cigarettes out of the hands of more children because the price becomes too high. Smoking & Health in the Americas: a 1992 Report of the Surgeon General supports that increasing tobacco taxes is widely recognized as the single most effective way to reduce tobacco consumption. If more individuals quit because the price is too high, than Wisconsin also wins with healthier citizens with fewer smoking-induced cancers and heart diseases. Cigarette smoking is a legal substance which kills when used as intended.

A proposed \$.56 per pack cigarette fee (or \$.28 each year of this legislative session) would generate \$192 million per year (\$104 million in the first year) according to the legislative fiscal bureau. With the new monies generated by this fee Wisconsin could fund primary care grants, the immunization program, WIC farmer's market statewide and support of WIC state administration, the Women's Health initiative, a children's insurance study and a "don't smoke or use smokeless tobacco" campaign aimed at our youth. Adults don't start smoking, children do. This becomes a win-win situation both in terms of improved health and increased funding.

I appreciate your consideration and will look for your funding support of these public health services in Wisconsin. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean C. Durch".

Jean C. Durch, RN

Public Health Director